

Nyctibicola longirostris,
new genus and species
(Phthiraptera, Ischnocera, Philopteridae)
parasitic on the "Urutaú",
Nyctibius griseus cornutus (Vieillot)
(Aves, Caprimulgiformes, Nyctibiidae)

by

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With 6 figures

ABSTRACT

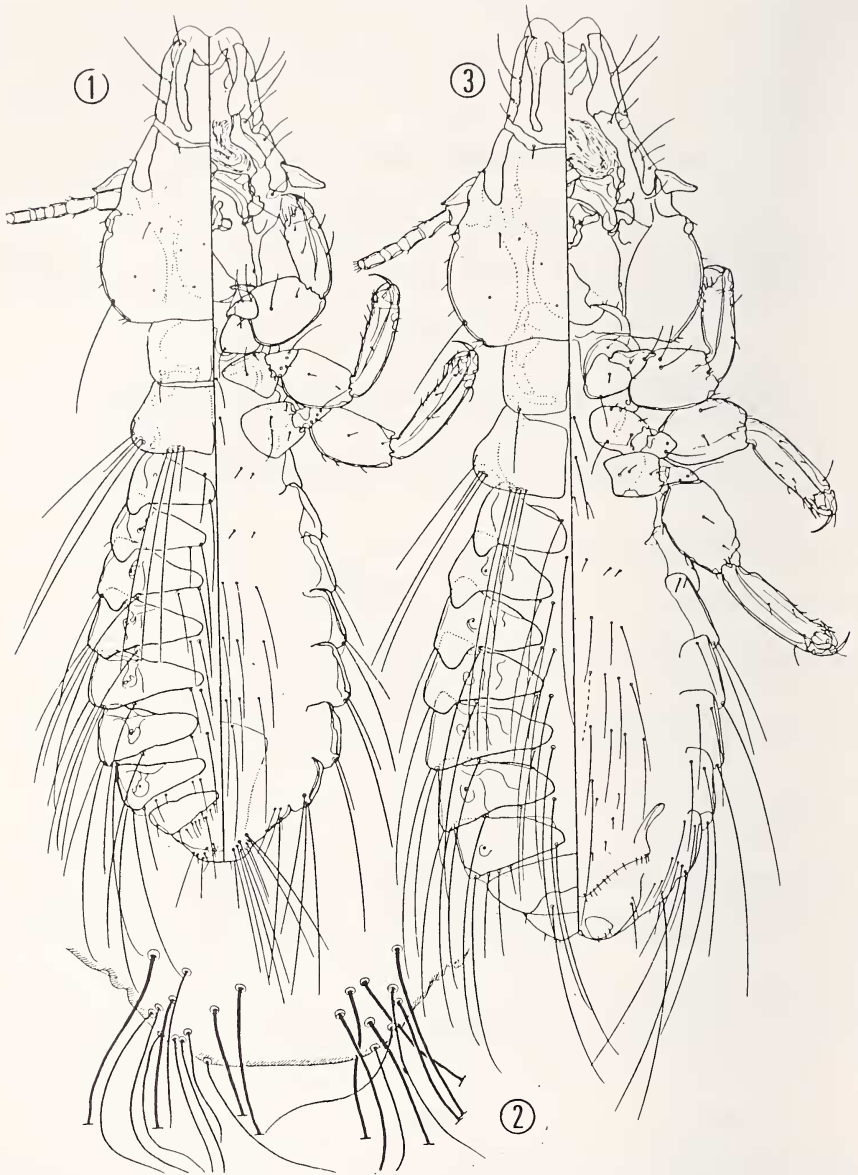
The new genus *Nyctibicola* is distinguished from the other Ischnoceran genera hitherto described by its peculiar characters of the forehead, pterothoracic and abdominal features and chaetotaxy, structures of the male genitalia and greatly produced vulvar margin of female.

Nyctibicola longirostris sp. nov., ex *Nyctibius griseus cornutus* (Vieillot) is the first louse described from a member of the Avian family Nyctibiidae, order Caprimulgiformes.

INTRODUCTION

Since 1979 staff of the Natural History Museum Geneva is carrying out a regular zoological survey in Paraguay, in collaboration with the "Inventario biológico" of the Ministry of Agriculture and the Forest Service of this country. Special interest has been paid, during those expeditions, to endo- and ectoparasites of vertebrates. A new species

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FIGS 1-3.

1, male; 2, apical ventral tuft of setae of male; 3, female.

of the genus *Brueelia* Keler has already been published out of the nice collection of Ischnocera (CICCHINO 1987), the second paper presents the description of a new genus and species parasitizing a nyctibiid bird species.

DESCRIPTION

Nyctibicola, new genus

This genus belongs to the subfamily Philopterinae of the family Philopteridae, and is distinguished from the other genera by the following combination of characters.

Head much longer than wide. Hyaline margin of forehead prominent and emarginate. Elongate dorsal anterior plate incompletely delimited on its posterior lateral angles, with a concave anterior margin. Dorsal preantennal suture complete and dividing the marginal carina at level of as_1 (nomenclature for cephalic setae after CLAY 1951). Premarginal carina long, with $dsms$, as_2 , as_3 , vsm_1 and vsm_2 medium long. Postmarginal carina shorter than premarginal one. Ocular seta and marginal temporal setae 1-3 and 5-6 short, mt_4 long. Prenodal seta (pns) longer than preconal seta (pcs). Antennae filiform and essentially similar in both sexes. Pterothorax each side with one short lateral seta, one long, one medium long and two very long setae at lateral angle, and three very long and one medium long setae placed on the posterior margin.

Abdomen oval and somewhat elongate, with tergites II-III medially divided in both sexes. Tergal plates of segments II-V each with a posteriorly pointing projection on their posterior margins, at level of spiracles. One row of long setae on each tergite. Sternites II-III with a row of very short setae, and IV-VI with a row of long setae each one. Terminal segment rounded in the male and bilobed in the female.

Male genitalia distinctive, with short and slender paramera curved inward, and large and complicated mesosoma.

Female vulva convex, greatly produced medially.

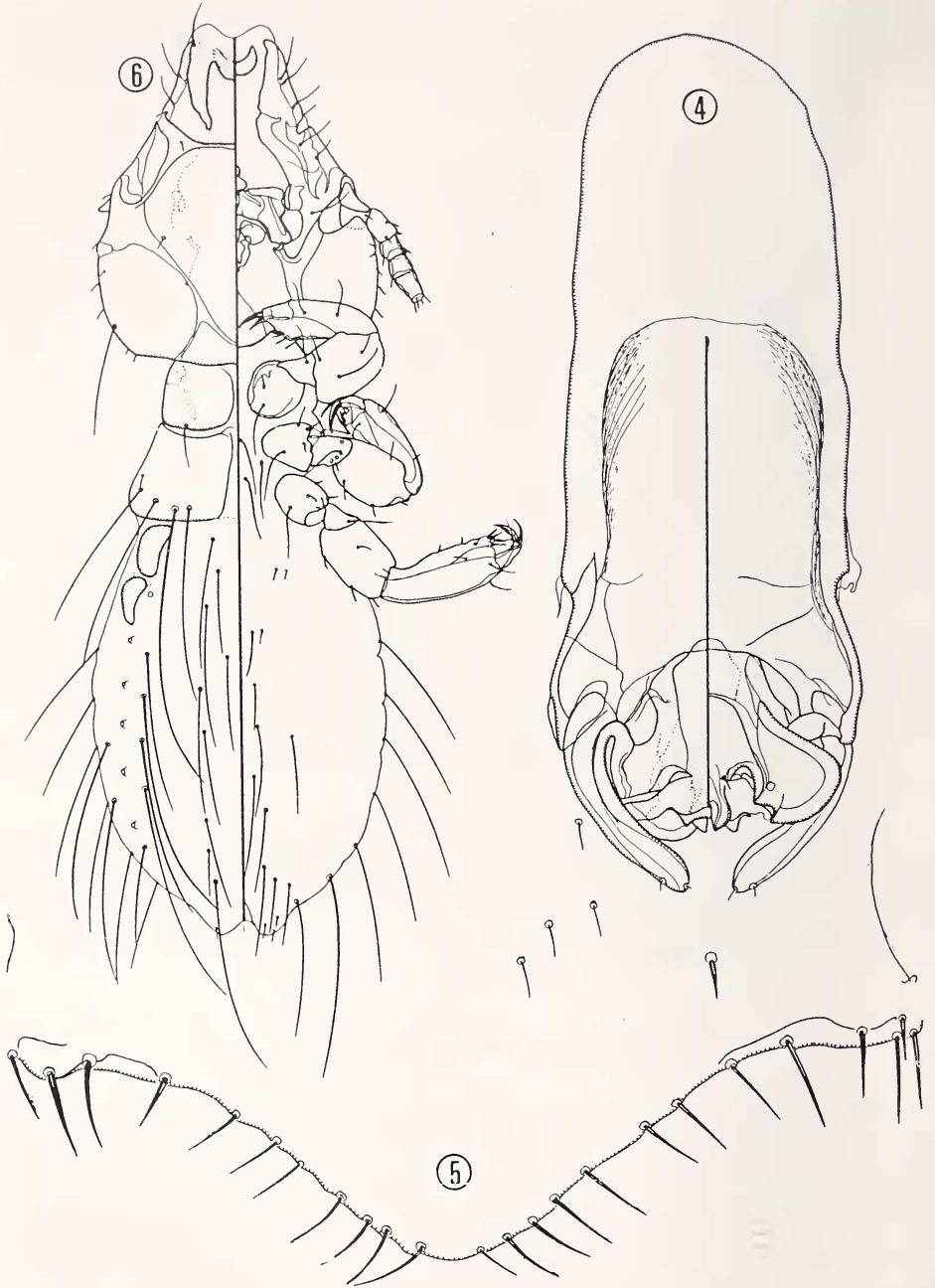
This genus is established for the new species described below, and it is to date the only louse described as parasite of the Avian family Nyctibiidae, order Caprimulgiformes. The characteristics of the head, male genitalia and shape of vulvar margin readily distinguish the new genus here proposed from the other Philopterine genera hitherto described.

Type species: *Nyctibicola longirostris* n. sp.

Nyctibicola longirostris, new species

Male: habitus as in figure 1. Forehead elongate, with lateral margins concave. Fergals and chaetotaxy of head and thorax as indicated under the generic diagnosis. Tergal plates of abdominal segments II-VIII separated medially by only a short space. Abdominal tergal central seta: II 2, III-VII 4. Abdominal sternocentral setae: II-III 4, IV-VI 6. Terminal tuft of ventral setae as shown in figure 2. Genitalia as illustrated in figure 4. Measurements (in mm): HL 0,652; POW 0,397; OW 0,515; PL 0,216; PW 0,294; PTL 0,157; PTW 0,392; AL 0,916; AW 0,588; GL 0,304; GW 0,118; TL 1,882.

Female: as in figure 3. External morphology of head and thorax much as for male. Tergal chaetotaxy of segments II-VII as in the male, VIII with two setae. Sternocentral setae: II 3, III 8, IV-V 8, VI 7. Paratergal ventral setae: III 2 (spiniform), IV-VII 2 (medium to very long). Vulvar margin (figure 5) greatly produced medially, with 24 short



FIGS 4-6.

4, male genitalia (dorsal and ventral view); 5, female vulva; 6, nymph II.

setae, the outermost ones being much stouter, spine-like shaped. Measurements (in mm): HL 0,720; POW 0,466; OW 0,588; PL 0,230; PW 0,323; PTL 0,176; PTW 0,446; AL 1,029; AW 0,666; TL 2,092.

Second nymphal instar: as in figure 6. Characters of the forehead essentially as for imagoes. Pterothorax each side with one short anterolateral seta, two long lateral setae, and two long to very long posterior setae. Abdomen only with pigmented paratergal plates on II-III. Tergal and sternal chaetotaxy as shown in figure 6. Measurements (in mm, n = 2): HL 0,470-0,500; POW 0,333-0,363; OW 0,387-0,417; PL 0,147; PW 0,221; PTL 0,108-0,137; PTW 0,289-0,323; AL 0,613-0,642; AW 0,431-0,441; TL 1,338-1,348.

Type host: *Nyctibius griseus cornutus* (Vieillot).

Remarks: the characters of the forehead are not exclusive acquisitions of the imagoes, being present at least from the second nymphal instar.

Specimens examined: male Holotype, female allotype, and two nymphs II, 10 km South to Santa María, Itapua Province, PARAGUAY, 27/28.X.1982. Types in the Geneva Museum.

RIASSUNTO

Il nuovo genere *Nyctibicola*, appartenente alla famiglia Philopteridae, si distingue dagli altri generi mediante la seguente combinazione di caratteri: capo molto piú lungo che largo, margine ialino prominente e profondamente emarginato; sutura preantennale completa, dividendo la carina premarginale a livello della as_1 . Pterotorace, ad ogni fianco, provisto da una piccola setola laterale esterna, una lunga, una mezzanamente lunga e due lunghissime sete impiantate lateralmente, e tre sete lunghissime ed una mezzanamente lunga disposte nel suo margine posteriore. Abdomen ovale, tergiti II-VIII divisi, tergiti II-V ognuno munito di un processo posteriore a livello di ogni spiracolo; sterniti II-III con una fila di setole minute, IV-VI con una fila di lunghe sete. Genitalia maschile caratteristica e distintiva, con parameri gracili e curvati verso l'interno, e mesosoma voluminoso e complicato. Margine della vulva femminile fortemente convesso, angoloso.

Nyctibicola longirostris sp. nov. é il primo mallofago descritto come parassito di un integrante della famiglia Nyctibiidae, ordine Caprimulgiformes. Il materiale esaminato proviene del Paraguay.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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